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# Curricular Affairs Committee Minutes December 11, 2017

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND FACULTY SENATE  
CURRICULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

*Minutes of the fourth meeting of the 2017-2018 academic year*

**I.** The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2017 in the Library Conference Room A, Chairperson Sullivan presiding.

The following members were present: Professors Baglama, Brand, Cardany, Dorado, Gordon, Izenstark, King, Loftus-Rattan, McClure, and Swaszek. Vice Provost Beauvais, Director Goldsmith, Mr. John Rooney, and Ms. Neff, Faculty Senate Office, were also in attendance.

**II.** The Minutes of Meeting #3, November 20, 2017 were approved.

**III. REPORTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chairperson Sullivan announced that during the New Business portion of the agenda he would discuss the distribution of meeting results to proposers, reactions he has received to those notifications after the CAC meetings, and Committee solidarity.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. COLLEGE OF NURSING:**

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of **THN 275, Loss in Literature**. The Committee approved the proposal, requesting that the D- grade be removed from the syllabus. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

**b. COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES:**

The Committee discussed the proposal to change the prerequisite for **BIO/GEO 472, Advanced Evolutionary Biology**. The proposal was approved.

**c. HONORS PROGRAM:**

The Committee reviewed the proposal for **HPR 392, Honor's Seminar in Civic Engagement & Soc. and Beh. Science**. The Committee requested that the syllabus reflect the student learning outcomes, that the D- be removed from the grading scale, and that the sentence that reads "...coping with disability and learning issues well (although we stand ready to assist you as you continue)" be removed. Contingent upon these corrections, the course was approved. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee when the revised syllabus is received.

**d. COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING:**

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of **EGR 120G, Coastal Resilience: Adapting to Changing Coastlines**. The proposal was approved and will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee discussed the proposal for new course **ISE / SUS 261G, Waste Not, Want Not: Sustainable Lean Production**. The course was approved and will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee reviewed the proposal to change to title, credits, and description for **CVE 205, Introduction to Civil Engineering Tools** to **CVE 205, Basic Surveying**. The Committee approved the course but requested that the syllabus be updated with the correct information to log onto Sakai, add a grading scale, and add due dates for the assignments.

The Committee considered the proposal to change the description, prerequisite, and add NUE as a cross-listing to **MCE/CHE 474, Nuclear Reactor Thermal-Hydraulics**. As MTH 244 was being removed from the prerequisite, the Committee requested to see a syllabus. Professor Swaszek volunteered to follow up. The course was tabled until the January meeting.

The Committee reviewed and approved the proposal to change the title and description for **OCE 206, Ocean Instrumentation and Design** to **OCE 206, Ocean Measurements and Instrumentation**.

The Committee discussed the Notice of Change form for the **BS in Civil Engineering**, adding the requirement of CVE 250, changing the total number of credits to 126, and rearranging the semester maps to better accommodate needs of the students. The proposal was approved.

The Committee approved the changes to the list of courses allowed for the **Engineering Entrepreneurship Minor** by adding BUS 247, 249, ELE 470, OCE 360 and 467.

**e. COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES:**

The Committee considered the request to change the course description for **NFS 441, Micronutrient Nutrition**. The Committee approved the request.

**f. COLLEGE OF BUSINESS:**

A Committee member inquired if there were a university policy requiring that core courses must be in a face-to-face format, and if such a policy did not exist, was one needed. Several Committee members weighed in that the college would determine the requirements and the best way to offer those requirements be it face-to-face, online, or a hybrid. The Committee felt that for the student's best interest, all requirements should be transparent.

The Committee reviewed the request for online sections of **BUS 464, Supplier Relationship Management** and **BUS 475, Social Media for Marketing: Analytics and Strategy**. The syllabus for BUS 464 has non-working links under academic integrity. The Committee approved the online sections.

**g. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS:**

The Committee considered the request to change the prerequisites for **ITR 301, Field Experience I** and **ITR 302, Field Experience II**. The Committee requested clarification on whether it was the permission of the department chair of the student's major or the chair of the department of the internship. Concern was also expressed regarding the maximum of 24 credits for both ITR courses. Mr. Rooney explained that according to past legislation, the intent was a maximum of 24 ITR credits, not 24 credits in each course. The Committee requested that the prerequisite be clarified, and approved the prerequisite as: "junior or senior standing, participation in the ITR program, permission of faculty advisor, and (a minimum quality point average of 2.50 or permission of the department chair of the student's major). May be repeated for a maximum of 24 ITR credits."

**h. COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES:**

The Committee reviewed the proposals for the creation of **AVS 326X, Equine Management** and **AVS 326, Equine Management**. The Committee requested that the flu statement be removed from the syllabus. The courses were approved by the Committee.

The Committee discussed the proposals to change to title, description and prerequisite for **NRS 450, Soil Conservation and Land Use** to **NRS 450G, Soil, Land Use and the Environment**, and the description and prerequisite of **NRS 452, Soil, Water, and Land Use Investigations**. The Committee approved the courses. The proposals will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee considered the change of prerequisite for **CMB 421, Physical Biochemistry**. After discussion, the proposal was approved.

The proposal to add a prerequisite to **MAF 465, GIS Applications in Coastal and Marine Management**, was discussed and approved by the Committee.

The Committee reviewed the proposal for changes to the **BS in Geology and Geological Oceanography**. Mr. Rooney discussed that, by removing the specific requirements of BIO, MTH, PHY, and CHM courses, students in the Joint Admission/Transfer program may be adversely affected. Mr. Rooney volunteered to continue consulting with the College toward a solution. The Committee voted to table the proposal until the January meeting.

**i. COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:**

The Committee voted to approve the proposal to add an online section of **EDC 102, Introduction To American Education**.

**j. COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:**

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of **FLM 206, History of Film III: The 21st Century**. The link under academic integrity on the syllabus was linked to another institution. The Committee approved the proposal for both face-to-face and online sections. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee reviewed the proposal for **ITL 310, Italian in the Real World: Conversation and Current Events**. The proposal was approved.

The proposal for the creation of **MTH 180, Mathematical Tools for Computing** was discussed and approved for both face-to-face and online sections. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee considered the proposal to change the title and description of **ART 215, Video and Filmmaking I** to **ART 215, Video and Multimedia I** and the title, description, and prerequisite of **ART 316, Video and Filmmaking II** to **ART 316, Video and Multimedia II**. Both proposals were approved.

The Committee discussed the proposal to change the description for **FLM 205, History of Film II**. The Committee approved the proposal.

The Committee reviewed the proposal for an online section of **COM 202, Public Speaking**. The proposal was approved.

The Committee considered the Notice of Change forms requesting changes to the **BA in Computer Science** and the **BS in Computer Science**. Two courses listed in the proposals CSC 493 and 494 are in process and have not yet been approved. The proposals were approved contingent upon CSC 493 and 494 being approved. (See postscript #1.)

The Committee discussed the proposals for changes to the **BA in Film Media**. The Notice of Change form was approved.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **a. COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:**

The Committee approved the change of course number and description of **FLM 401, Film Experience in Film Media** to **FLM 477, Film Experience in Film Media**. The proposal was approved.

## **VI. DISCUSSION:**

Ms. Neff explained to the Committee that, upon review of the University Manual, a question arose as to whether parts of section 8.32.10 Course Credits were accurate or necessary. Upon discussion with the Committee, a suggestion was made to also remove the sentence before and after the red discussion item. See below:

- **8.32.10 Course Credits.** The normal maximum rate at which academic credit may be earned at the University of Rhode Island is three credits per two-week session or four credits per three-week session. This limit applies to individual courses and to combinations of courses that may be offered in a single session. . **For existing courses to be taught during unusual time frames during the academic year and for all new courses, this course justification shall be provided to the Curricular Affairs Committee and/or the Graduate Council.**

After discussion, the Chair asked the Committee to review paragraph 8.32.10 and continue discussion at the January meeting.


Chairperson Sullivan reiterated that after the meetings, he has been contacting the proposers and department chairs of the Committee's decisions based upon the discussions and notes taken at the meeting. He explained that recently he had two uncomfortable conversations from proposers who stated they had received differing information from Committee members. The proposers were then confused and questioned the Chair's message. The Chair requested that if anyone on the Committee had questions about his handling of the notifications or wanted to be copied in on the emails, to let him know. He stated the importance of trust and solidarity among the members. One member suggested that perhaps if asked about a proposal, particularly one that had been denied, they should recommend the proposer contact the Committee Chair directly, rather than have a conversation that could be misunderstood.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Lawrence

## POSTSCRIPT



1) The Faculty Senate Office verified that the proposals for CSC 493 and 494 had been completed and are pending approval by the Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee. The Faculty Senate Office contacted the CSC department chair about the status of the Notice of Changes for the BA and BS in Computer Sciences. Per the department chair on December 14, 2017, the Notice of Change forms will be held until CSC 493 and 494 are approved. If these courses are not approved by the March 2018 CAC meeting, the proposals will go forward with 493 and 494 removed.